UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1016
30 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

1. The members of the Security Council, recalling the statement by the President of the Council of 16 December 1994 (S/PRST/1994/81), in which the need for greater recourse to open meetings of the Council was identified, and intending to continue to enhance the transparency of the methods of work of the Council, have agreed that the Secretary-General is to be encouraged to make statements to the Council, when he deems it appropriate, in public meetings of the Council.

2. Recalling the enhancement of meetings with troop-contributing countries, the members of the Security Council, taking note of the procedures set out in the statement by the President of the Council of 28 March 1996 (S/PRST/1996/13), have also agreed to the following:

(a) With reference to the existing practice of the President of the Council of reporting, in the course of informal consultations of members of the Council, the views expressed by participants in each troop contributors meeting, troop-contributing countries are encouraged to make available to the President, whenever appropriate, copies of their statements during those meetings. Written copies of the Secretariat's briefing at those meetings should, whenever possible, be made available to troop-contributing countries upon request;

(b) With reference to the existing practice of the Secretariat of providing weekly briefing notes to the Council on field operations, the Secretariat is encouraged to make those briefing notes available to troop-contributing countries upon request;

(c) Relevant United Nations bodies and agencies may be invited to troop contributors meetings, when they have a specific contribution to make to the issue under discussion;

(d) With reference to the existing practice of inviting to troop contributors meetings Member States that make special contributions to peacekeeping operations other than troops and civilian police - that is to say, contributions to trust funds, logistics and equipment - other Member States contributing to peacekeeping operations, as appropriate, should also be invited to these meetings;

(e) The President of the Council will inform troop contributors about forthcoming Council deliberations and expected decisions.

3. The Secretariat should establish an appropriate mechanism for alerting non-members of the Security Council about unscheduled or emergency meetings of the Council during nights, weekends or holidays.

4. (a) The annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly shall include, as an appendix, in addition to the elements identified in the note by the President of the Security Council of 12 June 1997 (S/1997/451), the annual reports of the sanctions committees;

(b) With effect from 1999, the bureau of each sanctions committee shall be appointed by that committee, following consultations between Council members, either at its first meeting if that meeting takes place in January, or in writing at the instance of the Presidency of the Council under a no-objection procedure.